

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D.C.

Joint Application of America West Airlines, Inc. and Royal Jordanian Airlines for Approval of and Antitrust Immunity for Alliance Agreements under 49 U.S.C. §§ 41308 and 41309 (Docket OST-2004-18613)

NOTICE ESTABLISHING PROCEDURAL DATES

On July 12, 2004, America West Airlines, Inc. (America West) and Royal Jordanian Airlines (Royal Jordanian) filed a joint application requesting approval of and antitrust immunity for a commercial cooperative agreement (Exhibit JA-1), hereafter the "Alliance Agreement". On July 12, the applicants filed a joint Motion under 14 C.F.R. 302.12 (Rule 12) of our regulations seeking confidential treatment for supporting documents and information. They state that the material filed under the Motion is proprietary, commercially sensitive, and confidential in nature which qualifies for being withheld from public disclosure. The applicants have asked that access to this material be limited to counsel and outside experts for interested parties.²

In order to afford interested parties prompt access to the documents under conditions agreed to by the applicants and imposed by the Department under similar recent circumstances,³ we will grant immediate interim access to all documents covered by the Rule 12 Motion to counsel and outside experts for interested parties who file appropriate affidavits with the Department in advance. Moreover, consistent with earlier determinations, at the Dockets facility, Parties will be permitted to make copies of the exhibits for use by persons who have filed confidentiality affidavits.⁴ We also find it appropriate to grant interim access to any subsequent materials that may be filed in this case under a Rule 12 Motion to counsel and outside experts for interested parties who file appropriate affidavits with the Department in advance, unless the party filing the Motion objects.

We expect all affidavits to state, at a minimum, that (1) the affiant is counsel for an interested party or an outside independent expert providing services to such a party; (2) the affiant will use the information only for the purpose of participating in this proceeding; and (3) the affiant will disclose such information only to other persons who have filed a valid affidavit in the Docket

Answers to the Motion were due on July 19, 2004. The Motion is unopposed.

² See Motion at 3.

³ <u>See</u> Notices in Dockets OST-2003-14202 dated January 21, 2003 and Docket OST-2002-12688 dated July 10, 2002.

⁴ <u>See</u> Notice dated January 1, 2003, p. 1, Docket OST-2003-14202 (Asiana-United request for approval and antitrust immunity for Alliance Agreements) and <u>See</u> Notice dated March 21, 2002, p. 1, Docket OST-2002-11842 (Delta-KAL-Air France-Alitalia-CSA request for approval of and antitrust immunity for Alliance Agreements)

OST-2004-18613. Affiants and interested parties must understand and agree that any pleading or other filing that includes or discusses information contained in the covered documents must itself be accompanied by a Rule 12 Motion requesting confidential treatment. Affidavits must be filed in Docket OST-2004-18613 with the Department of Transportation, Dockets, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC, 20590.

Affiants having filed affidavits may examine the documents at the Department of Transportation at the Dockets location. Affiants must present a stamped copy of the affidavit filed with the Department of Transportation before examination of the documents. Immediately after the completion of any judicial review of our final decision in this docket or the expiration of the 60-day period within which a person may petition for judicial review, all persons who have filed confidentiality affidavits in this proceeding are hereby directed to file a further affidavit stating that all copies of the applicants' confidential materials have been destroyed or returned to the applicants.

Finally, when we have determined that the record of this case is complete, we will announce an appropriate procedural schedule.

We shall serve this notice on all persons on the service list for this docket.

By:

KARAN K. BHATIA

Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs

Date:

(SEAL)

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